

### Remarks

Claims 1-53 are pending in the application. All claims stand rejected. By this paper, claims 1, 3, 14, 22, 33, 35, 40, 49, 52, and 53 have been amended. Reconsideration of all pending claims herein is respectfully requested.

Claims 1-53 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Shintani et al. ("Shintani") in view of Elliott et al. ("Elliott"). This rejection is respectfully traversed.

As amended, claim 1 recites a remote control device for a digital video recorder, comprising:

- a wireless receiver for receiving a list of television programs from the digital video recorder;

- an integrated display screen for displaying the list to a user;

- a plurality of user controls for controlling the digital video recorder, at least one user control for receiving a selection of a listed television program; and

- a wireless transmitter for transmitting an indication of the selected television program to the digital video recorder to initiate recording of the selected television program from a live broadcast or playback of a previously-recorded copy of the selected television program.

These claimed features allow a user to select a specific television program for either recording or playback by a digital video recorder (DVR), without interfering with a program being currently shown on a television. To accomplish this, the remote control displays a list of available television programs on an integrated display screen. The user then selects one of the television programs, after which an indication of the selected program is transmitted to the DVR to initiate recording of a live broadcast or playback of a pre-recorded copy of the selected program.

By contrast, Shintani discloses a bi-directional remote control unit that can display, for example, television schedule information. Shintani does not disclose "receiving a selection of a listed television program," as required by amended claim 1. Furthermore, Shintani does not disclose the claimed step of "transmitting an indication of the selected television program to the digital video recorder to initiate recording of the selected television program from a live broadcast or playback of a previously-recorded copy of the selected television program."

In his rejection of claim 1, the Examiner cited Shintani for the teaching that the "remote control unit can transmit command signals to the peripheral device through the television set." Col. 3, lines 1-2 (emphasis added). However, claim 1 recites transmitting an indication of a selected television program, not command signals. Shintani's command signals are merely indications of which buttons were pressed on the remote control, e.g., channel up/down, volume up/down, etc. No indication of a selected program is ever transmitted by Shintani.

While the Examiner correctly points out that Shintani discloses "transmitting electronic program guide information from the television set to the remote control unit, and displaying the electronic program guide information on the display of the remote control unit," the guide is merely displayed to the user for informational purposes. It is not used to initiate recording of the selected television program from a live broadcast or playback of a previously-recorded copy of the selected television program, as claimed.

The Examiner also cites Shintani for the proposition that the "remote control unit 100 of the present invention can also assist a viewer in navigating among the

wide variety of available programming." Col. 4, lines 43-45. However, the next sentence makes it clear that such information is merely provided "as a method of informing viewers as to what programming is being shown." Col. 4, lines 47-48.

The Examiner's specific citations to Shintani do not disclose or suggest transmitting an indication of a television program selected by a user from a listing on a remote control display screen to a DVR to initiate recording or playback. Accordingly, the applicants respectfully submit that claim 1, as amended, is patentably distinct over Shintani.

Furthermore, the addition of Elliott does not cure the deficiencies of Shintani. Elliott merely discloses a DVR connected to a standard set-top-box. The DVR receives program schedule information, which is presented on a regular television screen connected to the DVR.

Unlike the claimed invention, Elliott's DVR does not receive an indication of a selected television program to record or play back from some external source, *i.e.*, a remote control with an integrated display screen. Similar to Shintani, Elliott's remote control merely transmit command signals indicating which buttons have been pressed, *e.g.*, channel up/down, volume up/down, etc. No indication of a television program is ever transmitted by Elliott's remote control or received by Elliott's DVR.

Even if the references are combined, the combination would not yield the claimed invention. At best, combining Shintani's remote control having an integrated display screen with Elliott's DVR would result in a system in which a user could view what programming is available via the remote control, but would still need to navigate whatever menus were provided by Elliott's DVR on the main television screen in

order to schedule a recording. Such menus are uniformly displayed on the main television screen in prior systems, which would cause disruption of whatever television program is being watched at the time.

Neither reference, alone or in combination, discloses a user interface (UI) for a DVR that is displayed on a screen integrated into the remote control. Neither reference, alone or in combination, discloses the transmission of an indication of a selected television program from a remote control with an integrated display screen to a DVR.

In view of the foregoing, the applicants respectfully submit that claim 1, as amended, is patentably distinct over the cited references, alone or in combination. Claims 14, 33, 40, 52, and 53 have been amended to include similar limitations and are thus believed to be patentably distinct for at least the same reasons. All other claims depend directly or indirectly on the above-listed claims and are likewise believed to be patentably distinct.

As amended, claim 3 recites the additional limitation that the electronic program guide (EPG) is "configured as a grid having a plurality of rows and columns corresponding to channels and timeslots, the rows and columns forming a plurality of selectable elements corresponding to television programs." Neither Shintani nor Elliott, alone or in combination, discloses displaying an EPG grid of the type recited in amended claim 3. In particular, neither reference discloses a grid having a plurality of rows and columns corresponding to channels and timeslots. For instance, FIG. 3 of Shintani only discloses programming for a single television channel. Furthermore, neither reference discloses that the rows and columns may form a plurality of

selectable elements within the EPG grid corresponding to television programs. There is no indication in either reference of selecting a program from the list for recording or playback. The program listing appears to be purely informational.

Claims 22, 35, 49, and 53 have been amended to include similar limitations. Accordingly, the applicants respectfully submit that claims 3, 22, 35, 49, and 53 are patentably distinct over the cited references, alone or in combination.

Claim 5 recites the additional limitation that "the list comprises a play list including television programs recorded by the digital video recorder and available for playback." None of the cited references, alone or in combination, discloses the display of previously-recorded television programs on a remote control. While both references refer to program guide information, such information relates to current or future programming, not to previously-recorded television programs.

Furthermore, even if the references did disclose a listing of previously-recorded programs, the references do not disclose or suggest displaying such a list on a display screen of a remote control device. Moreover, even if the references did disclose displaying such a list, there is no teaching or suggestion, other than reliance on hindsight based on the applicants' own teachings, for allowing a user to make a selection from the list and transmitting the selection to the DVR to initiate playback.

Claim 24 includes limitations similar to those of claim 5. Accordingly, the applicants respectfully submit that claims 5 and 24 are patentably distinct over the cited references.

In view of the foregoing, the applicants respectfully submit that claims 1-53, as amended, are patentably distinct over the cited references, alone or in combination. Early allowance of all pending claims herein is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

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## COMMENTS:

Serial No. 09/916,635 filed July 27, 2001, for Remote Control Device with Integrated Display Screen for Controlling a Digital Video Recorder.